MONTEREY NEWS

DECEMBER 1982

MONTEREY ELECTS TO MAINTAIN AN UNCLASSIFIED TAX RATE

At a public hearing on November 22 Assessor Cynthia Weber presented the five categories into which town property is divided according to state law as well as the options for differential tax rates among them. Taxable entities in Monterey are categorized as residential, open space, commercial, industrial, and personal property. There is no industrial property in town. Residential property amounts to 82.86% of the total. Commercial property, which includes stores, small businesses and farmland, amounts to 7.4679%. Open space in Monterey is defined as any unused land over ten acres. Personal property is the furniture and equipment in second homes and buildings. It is now possible to reduce taxes on primary residences and open space and raise taxes on businesses, industry and personal property. Having reviewed the situation in Monterey and agreeing that the few businesses in town put no excessive strain on town services, the Selectmen concluded that there is no reason to increase taxes on business. It was therefore agreed to continue the single tax rate on all classes of property.

MONTEREY EXCEEDS TAX LEVY LIMITATION

The Town of Monterey received notice this week from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue that it has exceeded its tax levy limitation for fiscal 1983 by $46,440. At the regular Board of Selectmen's meeting on Monday evening, December 6, Assessors, Finance Committee members and the Treasurer assembled to discuss solutions to the problem. A special town meeting was scheduled for December 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Room of the United Church of Christ at which town officials will recommend a vote to reduce the 1983 tax levy by two means:

1. A reduction of the Town's appropriation to the Southern Berkshire Regional School District by $9,200, the amount by which the school system reduced its assessment of the Town.
2. An appropriation of the remaining $37,240 from Free Cash.

Treasurer Barbara Gauthier has announced that as a result of this unexpected turn of events tax bills will be delayed until after the first of the year. Taxpayers are therefore advised to estimate this first tax payment for 1983 on the basis of their most recent previous bill. Checks should be made to the Town of Monterey and mailed directly to Barbara Gauthier, Main Road, Monterey 01245, before January 1. The good news, says Assessor Cynthia Weber, is that for Monterey the tax rate for 1983 will be at least a dollar less per thousand than was originally planned.

In a third item on the warrant, the Town will be asked to vote to authorize the Selectmen to enter an agreement with the Monterey Fire Company Ltd. relative to garaging and housing the Town's firefighting apparatus and equipment.

MONTEREY MOVIE MOVES ON

The movie *Monterey Lights the Way*, after its premiere in Monterey on October 21, has been shown at the Sandisfield Town Hall on December 4 and at John Henry's restaurant on December 5. Both showings elicited considerable discussion. The next showing will be at the Umpachene Grange on December 18. Students of the Monterey phenomenon and of community interaction in general are advised to attend one or several showings and, furthermore, to expect to learn something.

Drawing of white-tailed deer by Maureen Banner—see Local Lore, *page 11.*

CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Masses Schedule

Our Lady of the Valley, Sheffield
Saturday, 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, 7:30 and 10:30 a.m.
Immaculate Conception, Mill River
Sunday, 10:00 a.m.

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship and Regular Meetings

Morning worship each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with childcare at same time in the Social Room. Choir rehearsal, Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. at the Church. Meditation and prayer, 7:30 a.m., in the Social Room. All are invited. Prayer group, Thursdays, 7:45 p.m., at the home of Lucy Smith.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Morning Worship the Sunday before Christmas
December 19, 10:30 a.m.

The choir will begin singing carols at 10:15 a.m. People are invited to come 15 minutes early and allow the Christmas story to enter them through the carols of Christmas. The fourth Advent candle will be lighted. The sermon will be, "Questions to the Heart at Christmastime." As always, all have a continuing invitation to worship with us.

Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols
December 19, 7:30 p.m.

Through the great music created around the Christmas story and through the great scriptures of promise and hope we will seek to recreate the mystery of the way God and humanity are joined in the Christmas event. Through the light and the lighting of candles we will celebrate the unquenchable light that has come into the world and that keeps coming into our hearts. All in the community are most heartily welcome.

Community Carol Singing
Tuesday, December 21, 6:30 p.m.

Carolers will go through the town carrying joyous tidings of peace to sick, shut-in and older persons. Young and old are invited. Families, singles, couples—or whatever shape you come—all are invited to share in this time-honored way of giving at Christmastime. This gift of cheer is more treasured than most of us can possibly imagine. Meet at the church at 6:30 p.m. The event will climax with caroling at Gould Farm, and then the carolers will be served hot chocolate and cookies. You need not be a great singer—but your voice blended with the others may give an unbelievable gift of cheer. Come, give the gift of hope through song!

Christmas Eve at Gould Farm
Friday, December 24, 7:30 p.m.

The Monterey Church has planned its Christmas celebrations through the years to keep open this invitation of Gould Farm to the community to join them in celebrating Christmas Eve. The celebration begins in the festively decorated living room in the main house with fitting scriptures, carols, prayers and messages. It concludes with a reverent, memorable living nativity scene in the barn. All the community is invited—yes, urged—to find time in your hearts and schedules to make this contact with the spirit of Gould Farm in the service it is rendering to a much larger community of need.

WINTER SCHEDULE

Beginning January 2 the morning worship will be held in the Social Room. This will continue until March 20. A committee was formed at the Parish Council to make preparation of the room for it.

CHURCH SCHOOL BEGINS

The Christian Education Committee has been hard at work. They are Mimi Caulfield, Joan Boyer and Judith Freeman. Teachers, students, curriculum, resources, community people with special gifts to contribute. And the best word is that the pre-school class is to begin on January 2 at 9:15 a.m. Other classes will follow soon. The death of our Church School several years ago appears to be turning now into a resurrection —and the level of thought, energy and imagination going into it suggest a real burst of—*new life*.

COVENANT SUNDAY

Sunday, December 9, has been named by the Parish Council as Covenant Sunday. All our members will be contacted and asked to be present. We will think about, pray over and consider the covenant we made upon joining the church and we will examine ways we may want to renew our covenant. Holy Communion will be celebrated and we will celebrate our life together. Mark, hold, this date.

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of our church will be held on Sunday, January 16. It will begin with the morning worship. Following the worship there will be reports, the budget will be adopted, officers will be elected and other special items of business will be considered.

REACH OUT AND TOUCH SOMEONE!

Ma Bell should be credited with creating one of the most provocative statements of the year. True, this is an advertising slogan to stimulate more long-distance calling, but it is too valuable an idea to be locked up in just the service of telephone revenue. As TV repeats this slogan over and over, it creates a feeling of warmth and closeness.

We all need to be reminded to "reach out and touch someone." We keep forgetting how much loneliness exists all around us. It is one of the most pervasive of all human feelings. Especially now, in the holiday season, loneliness is the more intense and unbearable. The holidays call up memories of happy times, so the pain of being alone, separated or alienated is all the more poignant.

I confess that I have a particular axe to grind in calling Ma Bell's slogan to mind. I am concerned with the problem of loneliness, to be sure, and I am aware also of the benefit you may bring to another by your touch. Yet right now I am concerned for the humanness of the one doing the touching. We live in a fearful time and in a culture that is so security conscious that people wittingly or unwittingly are in danger of insulating themselves from others. This is the burden of my concern today: "reach out and touch someone" in order to save yourself from an inward form of dying. Recently I was talking to a person from South America and another from the Far East. Both had traveled widely in the United States. Both spoke of observing a kind of fear and isolationism they saw in our people. This fear and isolation was not of "foreigners" but of their own kind. This has caused me a good deal of reflection. What are they seeing in us that is hidden from our eyes?

People in our land have enjoyed a wealth that is beyond the comprehension of most of the world. Yet is it in this area that many people are feeling fear and threat today. Could it be this form of fear that is causing more people today to build walls of isolation around themselves? I honestly don't know . . . I'm just wondering. If it were so, wouldn't that be the height of irony? Simply because our position on the top of the economic pile is threatened, are we going to let ourselves be frozen with fear? Some of us do remember the rash of suicides in our land after the crash of '29. Trusting in things can play strange tricks on the soul.

Regardless of the cause, still we have this malady of fear and its tendency to freeze up the currents of the soul. What is there to fear in letting ourselves be known by another? How often hope and cheer are denied to another by this strange malady. Yet we must not forget this is a two-way street. It is not simply that the other has not received the benefit we could give. We have also reduced our own humanity by the extent we have isolated ourselves from another.

There is a way all of us can check out the validity of this proposition. Watch yourselves when you are in an uncertain position. If you are a good self-observer you will likely find you have pulled into yourself more—and by the same token you will have increased your isolation from others. If you can't observe yourself that well, ask those who are closest to you. They likely will notice the change toward withdrawal in you quicker that you will see it yourself.

The fabric of life is an awesome thing. The lines that connect person with person are made up of filaments too fine for the eye to observe. But connected and interconnected we are. For better or for worse. Each of us day by day are contributing to the character of that fabric. Every movement into fear and isolation weakens that fabric. Every movement that evidences trust and hope in others strengthens the fabric. It is for this reason I find myself wishing that each day we could deepen our capacity to "reach out and touch someone."

— Virgil Brallier, Minister
Monterey United Church of Christ

LADIES AID SOCIETY

The November meeting was held November 4 at the home of our directress, Jean Stowell. Thirteen attended. Though it was a work session—sewing and rolling bandages for lepers—Christmas was on our minds. December 2 would be the date of our traditional Christmas meeting—a time for any woman of the community to join us in Christmas carols, and we wanted some sort of festivity with the mothers of small children, and the small children, so Jean was encouraged to ask some mothers when they would rather have it. (December 11 was subsequently chosen.)

A children's protective organization had inquired if we would like to "adopt a family for Christmas day," seeing that it got presents. This, we decided, should be referred to the parish council of the United Church of Christ for action by the entire church, or community. Clothes or donations for them will be needed by Mary Ward by December 12.

Our December 2 meeting was scheduled to take place at Marion Schneider's. We wish you all a merry Christmas.

— Margery Janes, Secretary

YOUTH NEWS

Brownies

Apologies to the Brownies. Their typeset news item blew off our dining room table before we had a chance to paste it in. We found it on the floor in a pile of dust kittens soon after the Monterey News *had gone to press. Here it is, dusted and polished, the November Brownie news:*

Brownies

The girls visited Tall Pines Farm in Monterey, where they picked pumpkins from the pumpkin patch, saw animals and had a tour of the greenhouse. Special thanks to Billy Thieriot for the fine tour he took the Brownies on! He did a wonderful job. The meeting after, they decorated the pumpkins they had picked, and the day after they had a Halloween party with the Junior troop.

Juniors

At the end of October the Juniors put on a Halloween party for the Brownies. During the month of November the Juniors started badge work and held their rededication ceremony. During the ceremony a new Scout was invested. She is Jennifer Swann, and they welcome her to the troop. Her mother Barbara Swann has agreed to assist as a leader, and they thank her and welcome her also.

They also planned to attend the Christmas workshop in Southfield on December 7.

Cub Scout Awards

Tom Harvey	Scholar
	Sportsman
	Artist
Leonard Bushey	Scholar
	Sportsman
	Showman
Paul Bynack	Scholar

4-H Horse Club

President	Sherri Burkholder
Vice President	Cindy Bozec
Secretary	Tim Curtis
Treasurer	Karen Hayes

The group is planning to go to the Great Barrington Nursing Home to show the little animals to the patients.

On Saturday, December 11, there was a Parents' Night.

December Brownie News

The girls went to the Monterey Post Office before Thanksgiving. They all met at Rachel's house and made pumpkin bread, and every girl took a bread home to her family for Thanksgiving. They also made pine cone turkeys, which they did a very nice job on.

The following week the Brownies made corn husk dolls for Thanksgiving also, and last week they made snowmen mobiles.

Cub Scouts, Den 3

The boys visited a nursing home and had a sing-along with the patients on November 23.

There was a Christmas workshop on Tuesday, December 7, at the Ladies Aid Hall in Southfield to which all troops were invited.

Bobcat badges were received on November 5 by Sean Storti, Mark Phillips, Tony Menard, Ken Pratt, Shane Stevens, and Richard Goewey. The Scouts are working toward their next achievement, the Wolf Badge.

Tigers

Tigers met with Mrs. Louis Storti and son Colin in Hartsville. They learned about transportation and used the crutches, wheelchair and cane.

They will meet next with Mrs. Nicholas Hardcastle and son Asa. and learn about pottery making by visiting the studio of Nancy McCarter in Southfield. They also participated in the Christmas workshop.

MONTEREY STUDENTS ON MOUNT EVERETT HONOR ROLL

The Mount Everett Regional School honor roll for the first term lists 56 students, or 22 percent of the 307 students in grades 9 to 12. Monterey students on that honor roll are as follows:

Grade 12, high honors: Margaret O'Connor.

Honors: Doug Champigny.

Grade 11, high honors: Sherri Burkholder.

Honors: Laurie Briggs, Karen Hayes.

Grade 9, high honors: Monika Pizzichemi.

Grade 8, honors: Joseph Burkholder, Michelle Grotz.

Grade 7, high honors: Burton Burkholder.

Honors: Christopher Makuc, Michael Stevens, Janet Thieriot.

NEWS FROM NEW MARLBOROUGH CENTRAL SCHOOL

Mrs. Heyman and her first graders planted spring bulbs along the school building's outside wall near the office door. Mr. Taylor, school custodian, dug the garden beds and prepared the ground for planting. Grade 1 is now preparing for Christmas by making gifts for their families.

The second grade finished the seed unit. Just before Thanksgiving the class made cranberry sauce. Each child got a cup of sauce to take home and share with his or her own family.

Mr. O'Hara's class, Grade 3, saw the film, *An Old-Fashioned Thanksgiving*, based on a book by Louisa May Alcott.

The teachers are finishing up with parent conferences. Report cards were given out at the conferences, which is a procedure used in the elementary grades for first-quarter grades.

The Toy and Gift Sale, sponsored by the Monterey-New Marlborough PTA, was held on December 13 and 14.

Mrs. Margaret Nichols, Grade 2 classroom volunteer, is hospitalized at the Berkshire Medical Center for some surgery. The children have made get-well cards and sent them to her with best wishes for her speedy recovery.

Grade 4 walked into Mill River on December 1 to meet Homer Stanton and visit the Historical Room. After that they walked to the Stanton home to see a very newly established beaver colony working in the stream and pond.

Before Thanksgiving the fourth graders were busy making pumpkin ice cream and pumpkin pudding. During December they will make cranberry nut pudding pie and spicy cranberry cupcakes. They are quite involved in planning Christmas activities, making gifts and decorating their classroom.

On November 17 the PTA-sponsored RIF program held its first distribution of the school year. Claudette Callahan, RIF coordinator, was assisted by Fran Stevens and Joy Doane. After receiving a book each student recorded the title of his/her book on a turkey feather, which was then placed on the RIF bulletin board in the multi-purpose room. Donna Drew, elementary art teacher, did a marvelous job on the art work and Claudette Callahan helped her put it together. Each grade had a turkey of its own on the bulletin board and the RIF feathers really made them special. The idea for the turkeys and feathers came from Fran Stevens and the children were delighted by it.

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Winter '81 at Gould Farm
Photograph by Dede Cummings

GOULD FARM NEWS

The Farm celebrated its seventieth Thanksgiving this past month. Many folks left to visit with their families, but an equal number came to the Farm to help us give thanks: friends, relatives, including Ellen and John Ewald and their young son. Ellen had come to know the Farm some twenty years ago, and wanted to share a return visit with her husband and son.

During dinner we listened to our harvest reports; of vegetables raised, of hay harvested and new acreage put into crops, of meat for our tables—beef, pork, lamb, of milk and eggs. Sixty cords of wood should help to keep us warm this winter. Maple syrup from the trees and honey from the bees will sweeten our food. Some of us are busy knitting wool from the sheep; others are waiting to use the tanned hides for projects.

We are not self-sufficient, but we take pride in carefully harvesting trees from our woods, planting young ones where desired, establishing a regular sugar bush, planting our gardens to winter rye as a cover crop, and using manure and compost to fertilize our fields and gardens.

The youth group from Atlanta who stayed with us for the past two summers is indirectly responsible for our new assistant cook, Agnes Black. Aggie heard about Gould Farm from Trisha Nuckles, one of the leaders of the Atlanta Group. She decided to join our staff this fall. Aggie grew up in Georgia and Tennessee. She graduated from Warren Wilson College in Swannanoa, North Carolina, in 1982, with a major in human-

Swannanoa, North Carolina, in 1982, with a major in humanities.

— Loul McIntosh

QUILT NEWS

Due to the press of holiday preparations and the finishing of fall, summer and maybe even spring projects, it seems that the quilt will remain a winter-into-spring project. Everyone is just too busy at this time of year to take on anything else.

The first meeting will take place Tuesday, January 11. Please call Leslie Scutellaro, 528-9244, about time and place.

MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange #291 met November 17. The theme of the program was Autumn in New England. Florence Brown and Eleanor Kimberly furnished an enjoyable program of Safety with recitation readings and slides. Guests were present from Sandisfield and Stockbridge granges. Worthy Lecturer gave an informative report on the recent State Seminar.

Patricia Hardisty will be hostess for a Tupperware Party December 9 to raise money. She would welcome orders. The Youth Committee, with Tillie Butler in charge, will be in charge of a fund-raiser at Price Chopper on December 20.

At the meeting on December 1, members were asked to bring in articles for the cheer boxes. The Youth Committee was in charge of refreshments.

— Mary Wallace
Lecturer

MONTEREY GRANGE NEWS

Monterey Grange #291 met December 1. Members packed cheer boxes for the shut-ins. Guests were present from Sandisfield, Stockbridge and Umpachene.

The Youth had a Tupperware party at Patricia Hardisty's house on December 9. Tillie Butler will be in charge of a fund raiser at Price Chopper on December 20. Berkshire South Pomona met at Monterey on December 8.

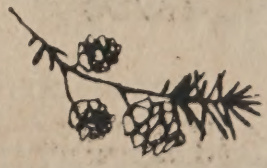
The annual Christmas Party was held December 8. The program was followed by a covered dish supper, and there was a gift exchange.

— Mary Wallace

MONTEREY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Monterey Historical Society wishes everyone a joyous holiday season and a healthy, prosperous and happy New Year.

— Sally Fijux



WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP

Attention—Women of Berkshire County who are interested in joining a support group for women in transition with special emphasis on divorce and separation issues: The Women's Services Center is offering a group beginning in the early part of January. If you are interested, please call the Center to set up an individual appointment before the group starts. Meetings will be held at the Center, located at 33 Pearl Street; telephone 499-2425.

MONTEREY'S FOOD SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROJECT IS UNDER WAY

Following the Annual Thanksgiving/Christmas Community Dinner on December 1, Cathy Roth, Extension Agent for the Massachusetts Cooperative Extension Service, presented the slide tape *Empty Breadbasket*, a study of the U. S. food system, produced by Rodale Press. During the discussion which followed, townspeople considered ways to effect greater food self-sufficiency in Monterey. Several ideas were presented by Ellen Pearson, who has been working with a committee of Monterey people and Extension specialists to explore possibilities for the project. Reception of the presentation was enthusiastic, and several suggestions were offered out of the crowd.

The Project Committee met on Wednesday, December 8, to solidify plans. At this meeting the following goals and methods of implementation were established:

GOALS

To address the problem of insufficient food supplies in the U. S. as well as the great dependence by Massachusetts on outside food sources by effecting a 15% increase in food production in the Town of Monterey.

To choose methods which will not only increase local food production and marketing but will also boost people's awareness of the potential for food self-sufficiency in their backyards, their town and in Berkshire County.

THE PLAN: A GARDEN PLAN

1. **Gardening**
   A. One or more community gardens growing several representative crops which are high in nutrition, good tasting storable through the winter. Possible candidates are carrots, potatoes, winter squash, beans and kale.
   B. Individual gardens to be monitored by Extension Service specialists in which the gardener develops proficiency at growing one chosen crop or a variety of foods. (Donna Tunkel, who lives on Fairview Road and is a consultant in rural land use, has created an experimental plan for growing a year's supply of food on less thana half acre of land, the cultivation of which requires an investment of time comparable to that available after a 9 to 5 workday. She will make the plan available to any interested gardeners who want to try it out and report results.)
2. **A Monterey Food Park**
   The State of Massachusetts offers free seedlings of fruit and nut trees and berry bushes to any community-based organization which can come up with a good proposal for their tending and utilization. Seedlings must be grown on public land.
3. Winter, early spring and summer workshops, films and training sessions conducted by Cooperative Extension Service and local experts on gardening, nutrition, storage, foraging for wild food, and food politics. An education chairman and subcommittee are needed for this aspect of the program. Please volunteer your services.
4. **Kids' Participation**
   All youth groups, scouts and appropriate classrooms in the regional schools will be encouraged to create and execute projects which involve food self-sufficiency.
5. **Information**
   The *Monterey News* will reserve a page every month for Food News and for a report from a model family which will keep account of where the food they eat comes from and report their innovations and insights.
6. **Research** into possibilities for community root cellaring.
7. **A Harvest Festival/Farmer's Market/County Fair** at the 1983 I Love Monterey Day.
8. **A Gimmick: A Sprouting Jar in Every Home.**
   Milly Walsh and the Monterey Food Coop will collaborate to assemble sprouting kits at low cost. Everybody is urged to get one and to discover the joy of growing and eating fresh greens during the winter. The Cooperative Extension will provide instruction sheets with every jar.
9. The Monterey Library will display literature relevant to the project (gardening books, nutrition information, food politics, etc.) during the month of February.

The Project Committee hopes that everybody in Monterey will profit from the many things we will all learn from each other and from the rich resources provided by the Cooperative Extension Service during the time we are enacting this project. If we are successful in creating ways to produce more of our own food and to encourage local commercial growers, we can then pass what we have learned on to other communities in the import-dependent Northeast. Anybody interested in helping the Committee, doing an experimental or community garden, offering more ideas, or sprouting a sprout, please call Milly Walsh at 528-4257.

Searching for an acronym for this endeavor and perhaps being influenced by a number of cat fights I've been witness to lately, I came up with the following: "Food Production and Self-Sufficiency Task Force," or F PSST! F. What do you think?—Ed.

COME AND SEE

It seems to be a time in the world when people might realize that a simple, loving, connectedness is one of our most essential and valued experiences. The Monterey Church creates a context that is constant in its response to that need. And my experience as a member continually imbues and nurtures me with this familial spirit of awareness - Joan Boyer

We are thankful for the Monterey Church because it stands in the community a symbol of stability, love and caring - Hadley and Elizabeth Simon

The Monterey Church means to me Home. It is where I find support and encouragement, and where I can offer these things to others. It helps me clarify my values. I feel that I publicly declare my stand for these values by being a member - Mary Ward

The U.C.C. Church in Monterey symbolizes and keeps alive for me, as no other church has done, all that is best in life. It assures me of forgiveness for my shortcomings. It confirms for me the reality of God and the immortal and invincible goodness of mankind - Rose McKee

I go to church because it has great meaning for me - Lucy Smith

In the Monterey Church I find expression of values, vision and purpose that matches my own. The Church reminds me of the communality of life and spirit that I share with all. Being in the Church helps me to touch the seam of the cloak of the Eternal, thus helping me to contact the best within myself and in others - David Bach

What Church means to me - I like to light the candles, and it is not a boring service. I like the children's story - Joshua Caulfield

Without the church I would have problems staying loyal to the best I know. I depend on the quickened sense of aliveness, readiness and unfailing support that is shared by those who meet together on Sunday to celebrate the week gone by and to give thanks for each other. Jean Stowell

Monterey Church to me is the culmination of many people with many different ideas and attitudes. But most of all it is a place where I can worship as God gives to me through His Word; a place where I can share what I am with God's other children, in love and in communion with Christ. Christopher Caulfield

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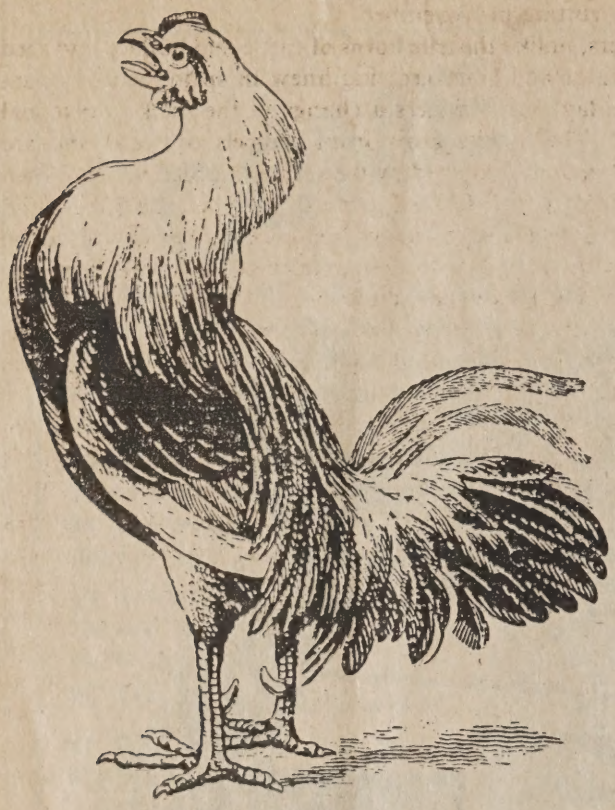

AND ON TO THE HEN HOUSE

When I first started writing this column I planned to discuss many facets of "homesteading" or "living on the land." My plan has not been well executed; gardening has monopolized the pages. Since the gardens have been put to rest and cold weather has set in, I will take this opportunity to move from the garden to the chicken house.

"There are many reasons why poultry is the most universally grown among agricultural products. A small flock of hens makes an interesting and profitable hobby, especially for indoor workers. It also provides the family with chicken dinners; with an adequate and ever-ready supply of fresh eggs throughout the year and a few eggs to sell to the neighbors during the season of high production." So read the first few lines in the chapter on eggs and chickens in one of my favorite reference books, *Land for the Family: A Guide to Country Living*, published in 1947 in Ithaca, New York. It is still very true today.

Even in 1947, the "experts" at Cornell knew that homegrown eggs are more nutritious than commercially produced eggs largely because of the variety in diet you are able to provide for your small flock. After all, what comes out is a direct result of what goes in. If you are losing interest in your compost pile, get some chickens. They will thrive on grass clippings, garden surplus, and kitchen waste when fed in addition to a constant supply of a well-balanced laying ration and clean fresh water. The addition of green feed to their diet not only contributes to the overall higher nutritive value of the eggs but results in a darker-colored, nearly orange yolk and a noticeable difference in flavor.

In addition to top quality eggs, you get top quality fertilizer for your garden. A single hen produces more than 75 pounds of fresh, moist manure during six months of housing . . . that's twice the weight of the dry food she consumed! The manure has more nitrogen and phosphorus than any other barnyard manures.

So it's no wonder chickens have always been so popular. They are versatile, easy to care for, and their clucking and crowing add something to your house that I won't even try to put into words. Find out for yourself.

— Susan Sellew
Rawson Brook Farm

A SECOND LUNAR ECLIPSE FOR 1982

A classical science fiction story tells of a plant illuminated at all times by three different suns. Legend has it that once, long ago, the suns "disappeared," and in the total darkness, with heretofore unseen and unknown stars in the black sky, people panicked and civilization ended in one brief night. The story goes on to describe the next such event with the ensuing chaos and destruction, with people burning everything in sight in order to obliterate total darkness.

We are used to our long night, starlit, moonlight bathed, or just plain black. For thousands of years we have been able to predict and explain solar and lunar eclipses, and so fortify ourselves against the experience of darkness when we could have expected light. There is nothing regular about the place and time of eclipses: this year we have two full lunar eclipses, the first one having occurred in July (I watched it with a group of friends), the next one due on Thursday, December 30, in the early morning. It will begin around 5 a.m., be total between 6 and 7 a.m. The moon will fade and then set as it emerges out of earth's shadow.

If you get up early, if the skies are clear, if you see a bloody moon or no moon at all, don't panic, don't burn the house down—it's only an eclipse!

— Loul McIntosh

Drawing by Maureen Banner

WHITE-TAILED DEER

When Daniel Boone goes by at night
the phantom deer arise
And all lost, wild America
Is burning in their eyes.

"Daniel Boone" by
Stephen Vincent Benet

If deer were the measure of America's wilderness, we would have to consider the country wilder now than it was at the turn of the last century, perhaps even wilder than when Daniel Boone went by. For 350 years, the descendants of D. Boone have exerted their considerable influence on this land, organizing, disorganizing, but always changing the environmental circumstances and the lives of individuals and whole populations of the native species. One great miracle, in the face of such civilizing upheaval, is that three and a half centuries later we can still walk out at dawn or dusk and see the deer.

The white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), considered to be America's most popular game animal, is not as big as many people suppose. The bucks are larger than the does, weigh 125 to 175 pounds, and stand 30 to 40 inches at the shoulder. Although they can run up to 30 miles per hour, deer are not migratory and do not travel much. The range of a white-tailed deer is about one square mile and an individual is not likely to venture outside this area in its lifetime. Movements and social habits vary with the season and the time of day. Like goats, cows and other ruminant browsers and grazers, deer have no upper incisors. They strip bark from trees, nip off leaves, twigs and buds, and fill the first of their four stomachs with such favorite foods as acorns, apples, white cedar, red maple, sumac, hemlock, ash and oak.

In spring the fawns are born. If winter has been easy and the doe is in good health she may have twins, triplets or even four babies. She has four nipples and visits the fawns six to ten times a day for nursing. Otherwise she keeps away during the first week so her scent will not attract predators to her babies. The fawns themselves have no scent at all for the first few days of their lives. They grow quickly on milk three times as rich as most cow's milk, at three weeks of age they follow their mothers everywhere, and by September they are weaned. Meanwhile, the bucks are gaining weight and developing antlers in readiness for rutting in November.

Antlers, unlike the true horns of cattle and buffalo, are shed each winter and start growing anew in spring when the increased daylength triggers a change in the bucks' hormonal balance. The antlers grow from pedicels or stubs and are encased in and nourished by the soft skin called velvet. When his antlers are fully formed in mid-November, the buck is said to be in rut. His neck is strong and swollen, and he started the season with mock fights and sparring with bushes and saplings. As their aggressiveness and hormone levels mount, the bucks seek each other out for real head to head combat. During this season they are fierce and unpredictable and should not be challenged by the unwary.

By mid-December, the mating season is over, does are pregnant, antlers are shed, and bucks are docile again. As winter cold and snows set in, the white-tailed deer begin what has been called a "walking hibernation." Their metabolic rates may drop as much as a third below normal as all efforts are concentrated upon survival on a limited food supply. In areas of deep snow, deer will "yard up" or tramp out a network of trails in a small feeding area. Here they can run a short distance before coming to the end of their trails. This is where they are so often trapped and killed by their next principal predators after man, domestic dogs.

Most of us have seen the deer. They remind us of bygone times in this country when Indians and then colonists too relied upon the deer for food and clothing. It is our great privilege to be able to see such large wild creatures in our countryside in this modern day. It is also our responsibility now to be concerned with deer populations, food supply, and predation. From the local gas stations to the sporting goods stores to the state fish and game divisions, white-tailed deer are big business. By 1967 New York State alone was making $56 billion annually from the deer hunting trade. Deer population studies and "management" are well-funded areas of research, thanks to the economic importance of the white-tailed deer. Since we have pushed the wolves and mountain lions back to limited wilderness areas of the far west and north, we are left ourselves with the job of managing the deer, whose reproductive capabilities would enable them to double their numbers every second or third year. Starvation, not the hunter, is the cruellest enemy of the deer.

As we watch, study, manage and hunt these creatures of beauty and grace, we pass along to our own new populations the poetic appreciation and respect expressed in this Navajo deer hunting song.

He ne yana

On the white shell mountain
The male deer walks among flowers
Great stars are his eyes
Dawn dew is in his mouth.

On the turquoise mountain
The female deer walks among flowers
Great stars are her eyes
Evening dew is in her mouth.

He ne yana.

— Bonner McAllester

DOUG BROWN

FIRE COMPANY NEWS

Try to imagine yourself an observer in a house on fire, sitting still on the floor in some room while the blaze rolls around. If you can pull it off safely, it's good way to learn a few things. One, how much personal cool you have to draw on in a situation that hot, and two, how fire behaves. Dan Andrus told me about doing this as part of a seven-week course he took two years ago at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy. Under the supervision of experienced professional firefighters he simply sat and watched the fire in a building used just for training. Not many volunteers can get such intensive training. The Fire Academy, funded and run by the Commonwealth's Department of Education, makes this possible. Most professional municipal companies run their own training programs, so the Academy provides volunteers with a unique opportunity. Dan said the course honed skills he had picked up over the years as a Monterey volunteer, gave him a solid background of knowledge so the fundamental reasons for certain firefighting practices became more ingrained. Since fires are always to some degree unpredictable, and every next one is different from the last, this basic understanding is important.

Recently we got a letter from Stephen D. Coan, Director of Training at the Academy, with the bad news that two fires this fall have crippled their program. The smoke house in Stowe, where Dan had his chance to sit through a (relatively controlled) fire, was completely destroyed by fire in October, as was a second building in Stowe a few weeks later. Arson is suspected. Firefighters from Stowe, Hudson, and Sudbury managed to save equipment and vehicles, and no courses have been cancelled, but the situation is difficult at best. An effort is under way to see that funds are included in the state budget for purchase of the building in Sudbury where the Academy now has its administrative offices so that a new training site can be built there too. Given the current trend of budget cutting, the entire program offered at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy could be in jeopardy. When the time comes, we'll be writing legislators to urge approval of funds to keep the Academy going. If you're inspired to do likewise, Senator Chester G. Atkins, Chairman of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, has given his commitment to work for Commonwealth purchase of the Sudbury facility for the Academy. He will be a key person in the lobbying effort.

Back home here, the big news may be what you've been waiting to hear for several months. Things at the new firehouse are so well along now that we've thrown caution to the wind and set an actual date for Open House. Come and be welcomed to our—and your—spanking new, 90%-volunteer-built, solar-and-wood-with-oil-backup-heated, supremely insulated and energy-efficient, spacious, solid . . . oh, stop. Come see the new place on Sunday afternoon, January 16, between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. We'll all be there to show you around. The following weekend, the square and contra dance offered by Joe Baker and Bonner McAllester's Mountain Laurel Band to benefit the Fire Company, will be danced on Friday evening, January 21, from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. at the firehouse. Admission for adults is $3.00, for children $1.00.

If you can't make it to either event, drop in any time and see for yourself. The new station is ready at last to quit being a-building and start to be a building.

— Peter Murkett

LOCAL LORE (continued)

INDIAN NOTES

Native American Languages

Our local Indians, the Mahicans, spoke a dialect of Algonquin, and it is interesting to know that many of the other Native American languages were as different from Algonquin as English is from Chinese. "Phylum" is the word used by linguists for a language group unrelated to any other. Here are the major aboriginal phyla of North America with some of the language families within each:

1. **Palaeosiberian.** Its families include Eskimo-Aleut, from Greenland to Alaska, and the Chuckchi-Kamchatkan family of Siberia.
2. **Na-dene.** This includes the Athabascans, with Navajo and Apache dialects in the Southwest and many others all the way up into the Northwest Territory of Canada.
3. **Macro-Algonquin.** Far-flung Algonquin with its many dialects all over the Northeast and as far west as the Blackfeet of Montana, and other families such as Yurok on the West Coast and Natchez in the Southeast.
4. **Macro-Siouan.** Here belongs the Siouan family with Crow, Winnebago, Mandan, Omaha and Dakota among its dialects. Another family in this phylum is Iroquoian, including the Six Nations of New York and Canada.
5. **Hokan.** Its families include Yuman in the Southwest and the Seri, Pomo, Karok and others on the southern West Coast.
6. **Penutian.** Includes the Yokuts and Tsimshian on the Northwest Coast and scattered groups all the way to the Mayans of Yucatan.
7. **Aztec-Tanoan.** The two main families are the Kiowa-Tanoan of the Plains and Southwest and the Uto-Aztecan, which includes Hopi, Shoshone, Paiute and others all the way to the Aztecs of Mexico.

A good many other Indian languages are called "language isolates," which means linguists have not been able to link them with any other languages in the world, as yet. These include the Keres of the Southwest and the Salish, Nootka and Kwakiutl of the Northwest Coast.

— David McAllester

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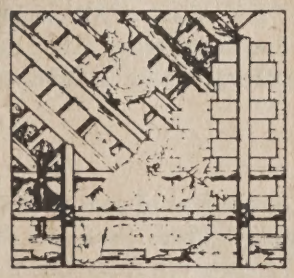

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CALENDAR

Country Dance

Friday, January 7—Contradance at 8:30 p.m. at First Church Congregational, Pittsfield. Mountain Laurel Band; Joe Baker, caller.
Saturday, January 8—Country Dance for Families, 8:30 p.m. at Sheffield Grange. Beginners and children welcome. Mountain Laurel Band; Joe Baker, caller.
Friday, January 21—Square Dance to benefit the Monterey Fire Company, 8:30 p.m. at the new firehouse. Mountain Laurel Band; Joe Baker, caller.

For information about any of these events, call 528-9385.

Film

Tuesday, December 21—Play It Again, Sam, starring Woody Allen and Diane Keaton, will be screened at the Berkshire Athenaeum. In this "outrageously funny" adaptation of his Broadway play, Allen portrays a film critic whose romantic life improves when he begins to receive coaching from the ghost of Humphrey Bogart. In color, the film runs for 85 minutes. It was loaned for this showing by the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System. The film will begin at 7:30 p.m. and will be open to the public free of charge, as are all Library Arts Series events.

Health Promotion Clinics

Health Promotion Clinics which are free of charge to South County residents will be held at various locations during December as shown below. All clinics run from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. on the days shown.

Monday, December 13—Sandisfield Library, Sandisfield.
Tuesday, December 14—Dewey Memorial Hall, Sheffield.
Tuesday, December 28—Dewey Memorial Hall, Sheffield.
Thursday, December 30—Senior Center, Great Barrington.

For information on any of the above clinics, call 528-0130.

Woodlands Indian Music

Wednesday, January 5—David McAllester, Professor of Anthropology and Music at Wesleyan University and one of the founders of the Society for Ethnomusicology, will give a concert and discussion on Woodlands Indian music at the Berkshire Museum at 7:30 p.m. McAllester is a leading authority on the music of the Navajos of Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. A trustee of the American Indian Archaeological Institute in Washington, Connecticut, McAllester has recently devoted much of his time to a study of the music of the Woodlands Indians.

PERSONAL

The Sun/Inside Inn on Route 23, a well-known French restaurant run by Fred and Lucie Lancome for more than three decades, has closed its doors.

The Lancomes will be keeping the Sun/Inside name for a new business, a sculpture gallery. Mr. Lancome himself is a trained sculptor, a graduate of the Academie Des Beaux Arts in Paris. Their gallery will be open during the summer months at the Route 23 location, which is also their home.

KNOSSOS. Fred Lancome

ENERGY PROJECT MEETING

The Monterey Energy Project has announced that it will hold a special meeting on Wednesday, January 12, at 7:00 p.m. at Walsh's Mobil station. Topics to be discussed will be plans on changing the direction of the Energy Project, especially in relation to the Food Project discussed elsewhere in this issue, and the loan program which the Energy Project has instituted. Please come and bring a friend.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Since this is the month for renewal of my subscription I'm enclosing my check—which I realize should be sent the Reeds—but I want to write you too.

I note you are now grouping your ads as often as space and design permit. The result is pleasing and has, I feel, a two-fold effect as it accents two unusual features of your interesting publication—your photographs and the original sketches. Letting the children "do their thing" draws them into community life without their being aware of it. And the photographs introduce me to all of you whom I have never met. I even know what you look like now!!

Please tell Wallace he looks great in his school photo in the August issue.

My best wishes to all of you on the staff for a good 1983 and may all your troubles be little ones.

Sincerely,

Ottalie Williams
Los Gatos, CA

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Reflections at Midterm

Those of us who two years ago made Cassandra-like predictions when Ronald Reagan was elected President find them sadly confirmed at his midterm.

Having a man as head of state whose training as an actor was to portray fiction as reality, we found ourselves admirably manipulated but poorly led. Thus the country had to learn the hard way that what is a desirable achievement on the theater stage is devastating on the world stage.

Actually we have a president who is trying to act out a script for "Alice in economic Wonderland." In this misbegottten role the president has been blamed for having adopted a "Trickle-Down Policy." But all to the contrary he has given us his very own brand of a "Trickle-Up Policy."

As pointed out some time ago by the *Washington Post*, ever since he and Nancy, our first senior fashion model, graced the White House, Rolls Royce sales have tripled; jewelers, the ones who sell the real stuff, never had it so good; mink coats went practically into mass production, and quails are better fed than ever, for no respectable cocktail party in D. C. can do without serving quail eggs . . . and the wealthy Romans ate peacock tongues while the people hungered . . . !

But on the other side of the fence, living in economic apartheid, are students who don't know how to pay their college tuitions, three million children who had to drop out of the school lunch programs, unable to afford the price increase, and eleven million desperate men and women unemployed. These individuals are amongst the true victims of the greedy recipients of the president's "Trickle-Up Policy." They are the ones who are asked in the name of patriotism "to give him more time."

As if to further increase a mood of insecurity, this president's defense policy has frightened more people than any previous president. But now America's foremost Sovietologist for 35 years and former ambassador to Moscow, George Kennan, speaks out publicly, refuting the fabrications we are fed.

In his recent book, *The Nuclear Delusion* (Pantheon Books, $13.95), he blames the president for the rising din of anti-Soviet hysteria which he describes as unsafe and unfounded. Kennan talks about his increasing sense of alarm and despair about this tragic direction toward our ever-growing confrontational policy.

Thus the most conservative president in recent history, master of dangerous fiction, brings vividly to mind what Ralph Waldo Emerson, the man we call "the eminent sage from Concord," had to say about conservatives, when he wrote in 1860 in *The Conduct of Life*: "All conservatives are such from personal defects"! And Ashley Montague, now in his eighties, describes conservatives at some greater length: ". . . it is quite possible for conventional rules of action and conventional habits of thought to get such power that progress is impossible. Hence the dangers of conservatism and the slavish adherence to convention" (from *Growing Young*, McGraw-Hill, $12.95).

Therefore we constantly must impress on this president that the Preamble of the Constitution calls for government to promote GENERAL welfare, heeding President Jefferson's admonition: that it is the duty of an educated citizenry to speak up.

- Fred Lancome

PERSONALS

We have word from Jack Sharefkin that his wife, Belle, a summer resident on Otis Road for 20 years, died last month. Jack and Belle were a lively pair who brightened our Monterey summers. Those who knew Belle will miss her greatly.

MORE APOLOGIES

People have been asking why Katy Bradley's name has been missing from the masthead. Honestly, we don't know. She has been sending news right along. Anyway, she's back again, formally reinstated on the masthead. Hi, Katy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The *Monterey News* thanks the following for their contribution this month: Marcel Pasche; M/M Murray Bodin; Marjorie Fuller; M/M Elliot Kotler; Peter Murkett/Michele Miller; M/M M. F. Young; M/M Craig Young; Henry Hebert.

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